

NSC BRIEFING

HAITI

DOCUMENT NO. 14
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 21 Sept 57
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE 1-21-80 REVIEWER: 372044

- I. The 22 September presidential and congressional elections are unlikely to bring stability and will probably lead to disorders, possibly even anarchy.
 - A. Elections being rigged by ruling military in favor of Dr. Francois Duvalier. Army is in tight control and expects disorders.
 1. Duvalier, a black, is moderate, friendly to US, and may have enough popular support to win even a free election.
 - B. Candidate Louis Dejoie unlikely to accept Duvalier victory. Expects fraud and will demand new elections.
 1. A member of the mulatto elite, he is also a moderate. Has strong following in the south and in the capital, where he instigated crippling strikes that brought down previous governments.
 - C. Third candidate, Clement Jumelle, is backed by followers of exiled former dictator Magloire. This group trying to incite disorders to prevent or annul elections.
 1. Minority faction in army supports Jumelle and is plotting a coup.
 - D. Leftist Daniel Fignole, now an exile in New York and not competing in the election, is still the idol of the black masses.
- II. Since Magloire's ouster last December, Haiti has had seven governments.
- III. Economy ruined.
 - A. Extravagance, mismanagement and corruption under Magloire.
 - B. Government debts in default.
 - C. Poor coffee crop last year.
 - D. Continuing instability cuts important tourist business, discourages new investment.
- IV. Factors contributing to probable continuation of instability:
 - A. Country over-populated, people illiterate, desperately poor (some

-2-

starved in recent months) Easily aroused to violence.

- B. Racial bitterness between small mulatto elite and black masses, and regional antagonism between north and south.
- C. Popular dislike for Kebreau military junta.
- D. Soldiers unreliable, might turn on officers rather than suppress popular demonstrations.